

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ILLS, HE SAYS

Dr. William S. Badler Gives His Viewpoint of What Ails the Country.

The cost of living, League of Nations, slump in industry, labor unions—these are surface ills that afflict the country; the ones that afflict the nation are the ones that are hidden. Dr. William S. Badler, physician and surgeon and president of the Chamber of Commerce of Chicago, told an audience of the Chamber of Commerce last night of the things below the surface which he sees as a physician that threaten the future welfare of not only this country, but the world at large. Speaking from a medical man's viewpoint of what ails the United States, he presented facts and figures on the physical and mental ills of this country and advocated a method of solution, which, though radical, would, he believed, guarantee health, happiness and contentment to future generations.

Dr. Badler urged universal adoption of scientific means for the control of diseases where moral appeal has failed of its mark. There is a group of diseases that we can't control by quarantine, he said, citing heart, liver, kidney and other organic troubles that are caused as old age diseases, but from which many people die young. Give Records.

This country records 350,000 deaths every year of those who die prematurely of old age diseases, declared Dr. Badler. One hundred fifty thousand pass out before the age of 50 years, and 35,000 die before 40. And altogether there occur 1,000,000 premature, useless deaths every year, of which a great portion could be prevented by proper application of modern-day science, he declared.

In the last 25 years kidney disease has increased 47 per cent and heart disease 32 per cent in the United States. These diseases are increasing by leaps and bounds because they lack the warning symptoms by which the layman is put on his guard, said the doctor. These could be circumvented to

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a large extent by a physical examination at least once a year, and by the individual maintaining a record of his physical welfare, showing comparison between the year at hand and the preceding year.

Loss of Prime of Manhood.

"The United States is losing the prime and power of manhood and womanhood just at the stage where it is trained and ready to do something for humankind," said Dr. Badler.

"Am I in favor of chloroform at 60? No! The time is coming when the coroner will be called upon to investigate all deaths under 60 years of age.

"More people die of heart disease in this country than of any other ailment. Pneumonia comes next and tuberculosis third, but we are gradually conquering the latter.

"The death rate is lowering because it is taking the susceptibles and leaving those who by race and environment are best fitted to survive."

On the question of mentality, Dr. Badler declared the time has come when reproduction of the race must be regulated if feeble-mindedness and insanity is to be destroyed. Unless the fight is taken up against these curses of mankind they will in time overpower the human race and there will not be enough clear-headed ones left to act as guards.

Feble and feeble make this an inescapable result, he declared. Favors Prohibition.

"Am I in favor of prohibition? Yes!

"I am in favor of the prohibition of degenerate children, too. One per cent of the population of the United States is confined in institutions for the insane and feeble-minded. In time they are released as cured, but almost invariably are returned. In that interval between confinement they reproduce their kind.

"Three per cent of the population is degenerate, defective and unfit for marriage. Ten per cent of the new-born each year in the world are unfit, but an elaborate machinery for saving the feeble-minded infant to nurse himself and nothing is done which in time would save this time, effort and expense.

"It is not now a survival of the fittest. Natural selection is gone, but nothing in the way of artificial selection has been offered in its place.

"I am asked how I regard the marriage requirements of the state of Wisconsin. That law is commonly called eugenic, but in reality it is hygienic. If I am seeking a eugenic marriage I should go back into the history of both families for traces of feeble-mindedness, insanity and epilepsy, and satisfied, would O. K. the union, for those are the only things that are inherited."

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Dr. HALEY

PHOTO OF DR. HALEY



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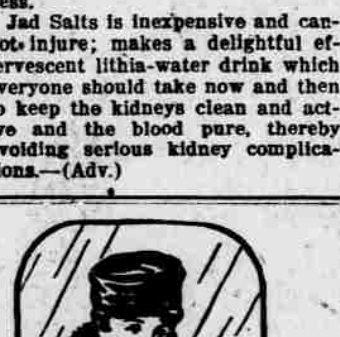
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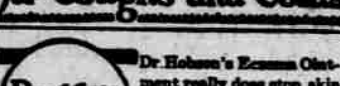


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